

CLARKSVILLE WEEKLY CHRONICLE.

R. H. YANCEY, Editor.

ITS CONSTITUTIONALITY.

The Bolivar Bulletin takes the Clarksville CHRONICLE to task for advocating the passage of the Blair bill whether it be constitutional or not.—*Avalanche.*

The Bulletin didn't reach us this week and we are therefore in the dark as to the manner of its "taking to task." We surmise, however, that it commented, not on an utterance of the CHRONICLE, but an extract from the Lebanon Herald published in this paper.

The Bulletin may possess its soul in peace, we do not endorse in its full bearing the rather reckless assertion of the temporary editor of the Herald.

The CHRONICLE has so often expressed its belief in the constitutionality of national aid, that we didn't deem it necessary to reiterate such faith. We humbly confess, however, that our belief in its constitutionality is a pure matter of faith. This editor is not a great constitutional lawyer as the editor of the Bulletin doubtless is, and has taken his opinions second hand from such sources as Attorney-General Garland and Judge Jackson. The Bulletin man, Logan and Sherman, all had original ideas on the subject.

The great necessity for national aid to education and the untold benefit that it will have on the Southern States, inclined us to the support of the Blair bill and we have little patience with those Southerners who interpose constitutional objections to its passage, when the same men have voted for an appropriation of money to prevent the spread of disease among cattle, to educate Indians, and improve horse branches in Northern States, and various other things of trivial importance.

The absolute need of national aid to education can be fairly illustrated in the Bulletin's own county of Hardeman. There is plenty of illiteracy there among both blacks and whites and its public school system is little better than a farce. Any sensible person will admit that this condition of affairs is exceedingly detrimental to the county's welfare. It depreciates the value of its lands and prevents its material prosperity in any regard.—The editor of the Bulletin does not advocate an increased State and county tax to improve the schools. We believe he might do so until his now auburn locks turned a beautiful gray without influencing the county court to such a movement. They are powerful low taxers in Hardeman county.

If Hardeman county can not, or will not, do anything towards educating the masses of her people, it sounds strange when her only newspaper opposes constitutional quibbles to national aid to that end. There are many who think that in a popular government like ours where manhood is the only suffrage qualification, education should be compulsory, and a case of this kind would seem to justify the conclusion.

To recur to the Bulletin's criticism, we favor national aid because it is needed and beneficent and are satisfied of its constitutionality.

TOM NEAL FOR CONGRESS.

The CHRONICLE nominates Col. Tom Neal, of Dyersburg, for congressman from the 9th district.

The four fellows who now aspire to that position all oppose national aid to education and a candidate is needed who is in favor of that beneficent measure. Col. Tom Neal is the man for the place and it is not too late for him to announce his candidacy. He is intellectually and otherwise the superior of men who have represented the 9th district in congress, and certainly the peer of those who are now offering their services in that regard.

A majority of the papers in the 9th district favor national aid to education and we believe the people do also. They do every where that the measure has been fairly presented to them.

We believe if Col. Neal will allow his name to be presented to the Democratic convention he will secure the nomination. He is a very popular man and being on the people's side on the educational question, he can down the politicians who have taken it on themselves to endorse Harris.

THE STATE SENATORSHIP.

A correspondent in the Tobacco Leaf of Tuesday, mentions Capt. R. Y. Johnson as a suitable candidate for the Senatorial nomination from the counties of Montgomery and Stewart. No better man could be selected for the place, and the CHRONICLE takes pleasure in seconding the motion.

Capt. Johnson is a genial gentleman, a man whose sterling traits of character command respect and whose intellectual qualifications fit him for a seat in the upper branch of the State legislature. The CHRONICLE would be pleased to see him nominated.

BOB'S BOOM.

Bob Taylor has a boom of considerable proportions. He is, in fact, leading the other candidates for governor, and it seems rather queer to us that it should be so.

His own county of Washington instructed for another man, Major Allison, and his popularity is by no means greatest in East Tennessee where he is best known.

In fact, his largest support comes from West Tennessee where several counties have instructed for him and where it is natural to suppose the people know least about him. His popularity seems attributable more to a sentimental jollity about "the bald head mountain boy," as he styles himself, than to any belief in his business merits or ability as a politician. His fame rests almost entirely on the famous fiddleing campaign of the first district in which he beat Pettibone for congress. That was a great joke of which he was the hero and the people are fond of him on that account. But the attachment is all a kind of levity—Bob can't be thought about in a serious way.

Some sentimentalists affect to be shocked at the idea of two brothers opposing each other for political office. We would not object to Bob on that account. The objection comes of the erroneous idea that a political campaign is necessarily a personal fight. Certainly there is no obliquity in brothers who have always been honestly and openly opposed to each other in political opinions, discussing those opinions in public. The worst of political enemies may be the best of personal friends, and, even brothers. If Bob don't mind meeting Alf on the stump we have no squeamishness on the point to air before the public.

But Tennessee wants a solid man for governor and the Democratic party should select a candidate of that description. Can any body say Bob Taylor fills the bill? Is he competent? The enthusiasts who are crying for his nomination should reflect on these questions before the convention meets.

The CHRONICLE has no enmity to Bob Taylor and no particular attachment for any other candidate, but in the interest of the State and the Democratic party, we would like to see a man nominated for governor with more enduring qualities than those of a person of whom it can be simply said: "He is a good fellow and can tell an anecdote."

THE COTTON TAX PLAN.

The American's support of Senator Whitthorne's cotton tax bill, is a virtual abandonment of its opposition to national aid to education.

It says that because a great portion of the cotton tax money can't be returned to the individuals from whom it was illegally collected, that all of it should be appropriated for the aid of the public schools of the South.

This proposition reminds us of the story of an old Baron in feudal times who having robbed his neighbor of all he possessed, was pricked by conscience at the neighbor's death and paid an amount equal to the ill-gotten booty in erecting a monastery to the memory of the dead man, wherein masses might be said for his soul.

The men who paid the illegal cotton tax are not all dead by a whole lot and the most of those who are, have administrators and heirs who would like to receive the amounts of which they were defrauded.

This money should, therefore, be returned, as far as possible, to the people from whom it was taken, but granting, for arguments sake, that this can't be done, the American is now actually proposing that the national government appropriate money to be given to the States with the direction that they use it for school purposes. This is certainly at variance with the very basis on which it has founded its arguments against the Blair bill.

The American does not propose that this money be paid back into the State treasuries as the nearest possible approach to a just retribution, but that it be given to the States for a specific purpose and not to be dealt with as they please.

The cotton tax would not be equitably restored in this way. Montgomery county didn't pay a cent of cotton tax and Shelby paid a great deal. But under the Whitthorne bill the county on the Cumberland would get as much of the returned tax as that on the Mississippi. The same thing is proportionately true of all the Southern States.

The American had just as well come out for national aid straight.

The Courier-Journal and some Northern papers that oppose national aid, say the States should have good public schools at their own expense, meaning, of course, that there should be an increased tax for the purpose in those States where the schools are so miserably deficient as they are in Tennessee. But the American can't be made to say where it proposes to get the money if it don't come from the surplus in the national treasury.

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ITS NEW DEPARTURE.

The efforts of the Chronicle to improve the politeness of our contemporary across the street in the matter of bestowing titles has borne fruit in a manner entirely unexpected. In Tuesday's paper the editor actually called himself mister. This too in the face of the fact that the paper's strange bluntness is giving this title to others to whom it is due, was persisted in.

The extraordinary freak occurred in the report of the farmer's meeting at the cave and was as follows:

The committee on Saturday appropriated a sum sufficient to purchase three handsome gold prizes to be offered the winners in the bicycle race. This feature was put in the hands of Mr. Brandon in connection with Jos. R. Wilson, Jr., and will be made a leading attraction.

We don't know why "a committee on Saturday" was appointed, or what it had to do with bicycles, it is the monopoly of the title "Mr." of which we wish to speak.

The whyness of the wherefores of this peculiar way of doing, comes not within the range of our powers of divination, we can't explain. But we protest to the public that it was not in this particular manner that we sought to correct our contemporaries' omission of the word Mister.

We admit of course that the portly, silver-locked editor of the Tobacco Leaf is entitled to have Mr. prefixed to his name. His position as Secretary and Treasurer of the Montgomery County Farmer's Association, and his expertness as a bicyclist, might even entitle him to promotion from the ranks, but then we submit that it is not good form for him to print Mister before his own name when he refuses to adorn the cognomens of others with the same prefix.

This is the first time that Mr. has occurred in any editorial matter in the Tobacco Leaf for six months or more, and we don't believe that it is fair for the editor of that paper to aggregate to himself a monopoly of the title.

BOSS HOUK'S SPREE.

Boss Houk got beastly and publicly drunk in Chattanooga the other day and the newspapers have been handing the fact around as if it was something entirely new; that the Boss should be known to exhibit himself in that way.

When he and Rule were opposing candidates for congress in the 2nd district, it was repeatedly shown by the Knoxville Chronicle, his own party organ, that he had been often drunk and the most disgraceful conduct was attributed to him while in a state of intoxication. The revelation of these facts didn't damage him with his party, he was re-elected to congress and has continued to be boss allee same.

If the Democratic papers want to tear Houk down from the exalted place he holds as commander in chief of the Republican forces in Tennessee, they would probably succeed better by showing that he is a gentleman. The plan of proving him a drunken hog has signally failed.

THINK about it voters and tax payers of Tennessee, the public school system of this State must be improved. Let the old fogies say what they please, but the days of a few rich and cultivated people with a mass of "niggers and poor whitefolks" steeped in illiteracy, are over in the South. Education, good education must be provided for all. Tennessee is at the tail end of the procession now, but she is not going to stay there. Where will the money to improve the schools come from? Must it be raised by an increased State and county tax, or shall we have aid from the national treasury?

The fellow whom Bob White left in charge of the Lebanon Herald while he was in Canada, used lower-case in spelling the words British and American. Bob would have forgiven the young man any offence against law, religion or humanity, but this he cannot condone. Mark him up! Mark him up!

THE Democracy of Moore county passed resolutions opposing the Blair bill and Prohibition. Whiskey and illiteracy go hand in hand.



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ORIGINAL ATTACHMENT.

State of Tennessee—Montgomery Co.
Herndon, Young & Co., vs. R. L. Shelby.

In this cause it appearing by affidavit that the defendant, R. L. Shelby, is justly indebted to plaintiff, and is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served on him, and an original attachment having been issued. It is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Clarksville CHRONICLE, a newspaper published in the city of Clarksville for four consecutive weeks, commanding the said R. L. Shelby to appear before me, at my office, in Montgomery county, on the 21st day of July, 1886, and make defense to the said suit, or it will be proceeded with ex parte.
R. D. READ, J. P.
July 3, 1886-4w.

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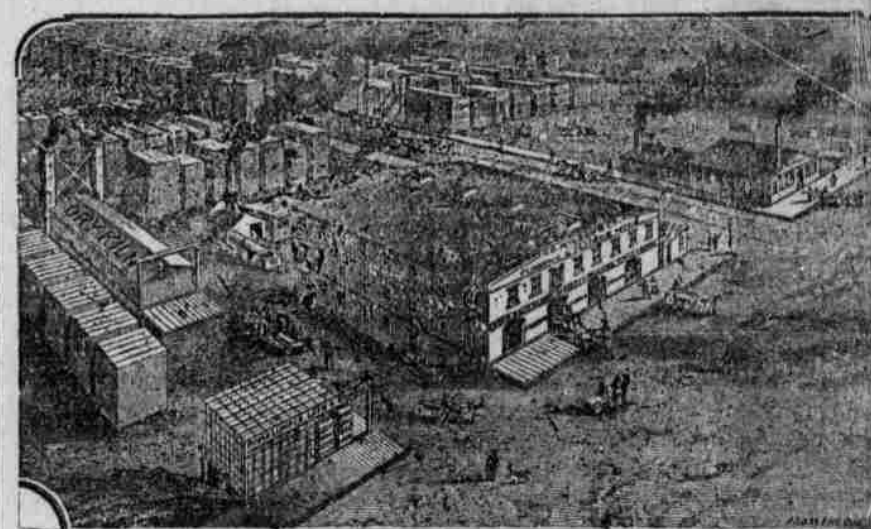
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Dayton, O., May 10, 1886.

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